

Message Text

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71

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 /093 W

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R 270930Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9831

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USUN NEW YORK 1027

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BG, SE

SUBJ: BDG CLAIMS AMBASSADOR RAZZAK UNDER CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

REF: STOCKHOLM 1013

1. ACCORDING TO REPORT BY BSS, THE LOCAL WIRE SERVICE

FEBRUARY 27, A BDG SPOKESMAN HAS SAID THAT BDG AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN, A. RAZZAK, IS UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR GRAVE CHARGES "INCLUDING CRIMINAL CHARGES" AND THEREFORE "THE QUESTION OF MR. RAZZAK'S RESIGNATION ON POLITICAL GROUNDS DOES NOT ARISE." BSS FURTHER REPORTS THAT A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE LEFT A FEW DAYS AGO FOR STOCKHOLM TO INQUIRE INTO THE CHARGES AGAINST RAZZAK. BSS STORY DOES NOT CHARACTERIZE RAZZAK'S ACTION

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AS DEFECTION, ONLY AS A REPORTED RESIGNATION "ALLEGEDLY

BECAUSE OF DIFFERENCE WITH THE GOVERNMENT."

2. COMMENT. RAZZAK'S DEFECTION IS THE FIRST ON RECORD SINCE THE COUP OF AUGUST 15, 1975. THERE ARE NUMEROUS REPORTS THAT SOME SUPPORTERS OF SHEIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN HAVE FLED TO INDIA AND THAT OTHERS ALREADY ABROAD ARE UNWILLING TO RETURN HOME, BUT NONE OF THESE HAS YET MADE A SIMILAR PUBLIC COMMENT. WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS SUBSTANCE TO REPORT OF CHARGES AGAINST RAZZAK, WE RECALLED THAT LAST YEAR A LENGTHY AND OBVIOUSLY PLANTED "LETTER TO THE EDITOR" APPEARED IN AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER PURPORTEDLY FROM BANGALEE RESIDENTS IN STOCKHOLM ACCUSING RAZZAK OF VARIOUS FORMS OF HANKY-PANKY. AS FOR THE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST BDG, THE ERRONEOUS REPORT OF COMPENSATION TO PAKISTANIS FOR NATIONALIZED PROPERTY FIRST APPEARED IN INDIAN NEWSPAPERS SOME MONTHS AGO, MUCH TO THE ANNOYANCE OF OFFICIALS IN THE GOVERNMENT HERE. REGARDING THE WORLD BANK AID, ALTHOUGH FY76 PROPOSED LEVEL IS \$180 MILLION, IT WAS A HEALTHY \$150 MILLION IN MUJIB'S LAST YEAR IN OFFICE FY75.

BOSTER

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Message Attributes

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